



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The members of the Board of Agriculture, before their adjournment, sent in a petition to the Legislature, signed by them all, asking the incorporation and endowment of a State Agricultural Society.

These members represented all the County Agricultural Societies but one, (the Aroostook, which seems to be not dead but sleeping,) and we have in them a very fair expression of the wishes of the farmers in each county in this respect.

It seems that the time has come when it would be wisdom on the part of the Legislature to establish such an institution. Railroads are now constructed, and in the course of construction over so large an extent of country that there are great facilities of communication from the greater part of the State. If these railroad companies will be as liberal as similar companies in New York and other States, they will carry all the cattle and articles to be exhibited free, and the people at half price. In this way the great trouble heretofore existing of getting cattle and things to be exhibited to and from the show will be obviated. State shows have hitherto been found exceedingly useful. Eighteen of the States of the Union now have them annually, and not one of them would remove this privilege and go back to the state of things existing before their establishment. This is proof of their utility. We need not enlarge upon the value of such shows, and upon the zeal and knowledge which is thus imparted to the farmers by coming together from different sections of the State, bringing choice specimens of their flocks and herds—these products of their fields and gardens, and specimens of their manufactures. They compare themselves each with the other—they ascertain wherein they excel, where in they fail, and thus go home wiser than they came.

Let the Legislature incorporate such a Society, and also give it, say an amount of State Stocks, or other funds, equal to a thousand dollars a year, for a term of years. Let there be, as in other States, tickets of admission to the show, and the receipts arising from such sales invested in some safe per cent. institution, and in time the society would find itself able to carry out its operations without the aid of the State. We think this is a reasonable view of the case, and hope the Legislature will not only so consider it, but put it into successful operation, so that a show may be had next fall.

RETAINING MOISTURE IN DRY SOILS.

The hints given by our correspondent, "H.," of Piscataquis, published our paper, week before last, (No. 3,) are valuable to the farmer, and the subject is one of great importance to all who cultivate the soil. Water is a powerful agent for good or for evil, in our farming operations. Too much of it is fatal to crops—too little of it is as fatal.

Hence it is necessary, that, as far as possible, the cultivator should get command of the water. When the land is saturated too much of the time with water, by underground he can obviate the trouble, but, when drought and hot weather prevail, and the soil becomes baked, or dried too much, it is not so easy to supply with the quantity of moisture needed. Few farmers are so situated as to enable the owner to irrigate them, or to throw moisture here or there at his pleasure, when a powerful drought is prevailing, and vegetation is parched for the want of water.

In such cases the best he can do is to endeavor to obviate the effects of extreme evaporation, or rather to prevent the evaporation itself, by a suitable preparation of the soil, either by mingling with it such material as shall retain more or less of moisture, or by covering it with something that shall check it, by its lack of radiating power, or some such like property. Our correspondent mentions chips, dirt, &c., as being a good material for this purpose.

We have seen the good effects of this substance, also of leaves, sawdust, &c., applied to such soils as he mentions.

We tried an experiment last summer, partly by choice and partly by compulsion, which corroborates this view of the matter. We laid down a piece of land late in spring with barley; the soil inclined to clayey loam; the grass seed and barley all came up well, but, when the barley had got about six inches high, the drought came on in all its strength and stopped any further growth, except what it attained by pushing out short heads, which became filled with light grains. We were at a loss whether to harvest it, or let it alone, but we finally concluded to mow it and let it lie. This was done, and the crop was mowed over but never naked up. It fell on, and about the young grass, and proved to be an excellent protector from the drought. It not only shaded it from the powerful rays of the sun, but it kept the surface of the ground moist rather than otherwise would have been, by preventing evaporation, and the consequence was, the grain grew finely, apparently not injured by the drought at all.

This was, in one sense, practising what has been called "Gurneyism." Mr. Gurney recommended mowing grass and grain crops, by scattering straw over them. In this instance straw was pretty evenly spread over the grass crop with good results. We are inclined to think that those who have thought that shade had a strong fertilizing effect, were misled on account of the shade preventing evaporation in a great degree, and thereby the crop not being injured by drought was greatly benefited.

The subject is one worthy the attention of all cultivators.

PROFITS OF POULTRY RAISING.

Some weeks since, one of our subscribers, Mr. Joshua Lovell, of Farmington, who had his attention called to an article in the Farmer, headed "Eggs and Poultry," in which the profit on 23 hens is given as \$42, called on us and gave us some facts and figures in regard to his own flock of biddies, which we intended to publish at the time, but being mislaid, it was forgotten until the communication in another column of this week's paper brought it to mind. We give Mr. Lovell's statement, and hope he will overlook the delay.

Mr. Lovell wintered 15 hens, and in the spring he set eight of them on 83 eggs, (part turkeys' eggs,) from which he raised 39 chickens, and 32 turkeys. Two of his hens he killed in June, and one in August. The amount of sales, eggs and chickens, was \$43 50—no account of eggs used by family, or of half a dozen chickens. At the time he gave us this statement he had on hand 24 hens and pullets.

Estimating the cost of keeping the same as "Kennebec Farmer," his hens cost him \$11 25 for keeping, leaving him a profit of \$32 25.

These facts show that hens may be made profitable—very much so—but, in order to attain such results as the above, they need care and attention, as much as any other stock.

Besides eggs and chickens, there is another great source of income from poultry, which neither of our friends appear to make any account of. We mean the dung which collects about the roost, and which is one of the most powerful of all manures. Indeed, some claim that it is even superior to guano. Of course it will not do to apply such an active stimulant to plants without reducing its strength by mixing it with other materials, as loam, charcoal dust, &c. Mier, in his "Domestic Poultry Book," says poultry manure is "the most valuable fertilizer that we have."

We copy the following article on the value of poultry manure from the American Agriculturist, and commend it to the perusal of our readers who keep poultry—

"It is lamentable, and disgusting even, to see what a waste is going on in this country of the richest and most valuable manure ever known. We are importing shiploads after shiploads of guano, (sea-bird manure,) while hundreds of tons of poultry manure which is asserted to be equal in value is suffered to go to waste in the United States. Each farmer's poultry yard produces so little, that it is suffered to go to waste, and thus the country loses over a million dollars annually."

Having learned the value of poultry manure, we suppose now our readers would like to know what is the best method to save it.

First, build a poultry house, if it be no more than a rough scaffolding of poles or rails, laid upon crotches, forming a double pitch roof, with eaves boards in winter, to keep out the wind and driving storms. Under this, place parallel boards, and the manure in the night will all drop down into a narrow run beneath. Here place a light loan about a foot deep, rather wider and longer than the roost, and give it a sprinkling of plaster of Paris an inch thick. When this is covered with manure an inch deep, give it a layer of loam four inches deep, and another sprinkling of an inch of plaster, and so continue. In the spring, mix all well together, keep it free from the rain, and use it at the rate of one pint to a hill of corn, or a corresponding quantity for cucumbers, squashes, pumpkins, melons, peas, onions, strawberries, or any other fruit, vegetable, or grain, requiring rich manure, and our word for it, you will have a crop of a superior quality. Thus you will become one out of the many, who is desirous to benefit himself, and assist in saving more than a million of dollars annually to the country."

HARROW QUESTION.

Mr. Editor:—Could you or any of your subscribers, through the columns of your paper, give me the rule to set the teeth in a square harrow? It will be of service to me, if not to others.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Monmouth, Jan. 14, 1855.

NOTE. We do not know that there is any definite rule for setting teeth in a square, or any other form of harrow. Each form of harrow will suggest of itself a rule for placing the teeth.

A line may be drawn at the base of the harrow on the floor, or on a board tacked on to the wood of the harrow, when placed in the position you wish to have it when moved by the team; this line must be as long as the spread of the harrow, and then divided off into squares, as far apart as you wish to have the mark on the teeth on the ground. A straight edge placed on each division, at right angles to the line, and laid also on to the harrow wood, will show you where to put the teeth.

In a square harrow that we have seen, that was three feet square, and drawn by a clavis in the middle of one of the bars, and not by one corner, as is usual, there were fifteen teeth—four in the forward bar—four in the second bar—four in the third bar—and three in the fourth bar. They were about nine inches apart, and formed diagonal rows from corner to corner. As we said before, the rule for setting teeth in harrows must be as various as the forms of the harrows.

How TO TREAT YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES WHEN PARTIALLY BURNED. Somebody says:—On one of the cold days, I pulled off my boots and set them close to a stove which was very hot. The room was filled with a smell as of something burning. Turning round, I saw my boots smoking at a great rate. I seized them and immediately bemoaned them with soft soap, much of which, owing to their highly heated condition, quickly disappeared in the leather. When the boots became cold the leather was soft and pliable; and now, after several days of subsequent wear, they exhibit no marks of having been burned. The foregoing seems to be worthy of attention.

POUDRETTE.

Mr. Editor:—It is somewhat surprising that the contents of our privy vaults, from which poudrette is manufactured, and which is perhaps a more stimulating manure than guano, containing, in addition to nitrogen, as much ammonia, should have received so little attention from our farmers. The manufacture of the article is so very simple that no mistakes can be made. It is only to render it inodorous, by an admixture of plaster or charcoal dust, which will retain its gases; after which it can be mixed with loam, saw-dust or spent tan, for the purpose of an accurate division of it, and the spreading it more evenly over the land.

A solution of copperas in water will render it inodorous, but I should fear would not retain the gases so well as the other materials named. The Chinese are noted for the perfection to which they have carried their agriculture, and the farmer and the land holder take their true rank in their social relations, always taking precedence of the commercial and professional men, on all public occasions. Yet their lands that have been cultivated for thousands of years have not been worn out, or rendered less fertile, so careful have they been to be just to the soil, and to return to it an equivalent for the crops taken off. They make great use of this article, and take the greatest pains to collect the materials for its manufacture. In their large cities and villages they have large cloas, the cleansing of which, by the proprietors, affords them a handsome income for the use of the building and the necessary attendants. The accumulations are sold to the manufacturer, who renders it inodorous, and mixes it with some friable substance, to make it into a paste, after which it is formed into sheets about an inch thick and some ten inches in diameter, dried and packed in straw baskets of some sixty pounds each. In this state it is sold, and transported into the country. When used, it is again put in soak, softened and mixed with other substances for immediate use.

In the smaller villages, scattered through the country where the laborers reside, and in the shore towns where their fishermen live, there is a class of men called by Europeans "gold finders," who make it a business, with two little baskets, hanging near the ground from a stick across their shoulders, armed with a garden hoe and rake, to perambulate the streets, lanes, and by-places, and pick up all the waifs and strays of this description, and dispose of it to the poudrette manufacturer.

A good farmer in China will have pits in his fields at suitable distances for the convenience of use, where all the refuse that can be obtained from the streets and lanes is deposited, and covered over to rot and ferment, without the loss of any of its gases by evaporation. They allow nothing to be wasted that will enrich their cultivated lands. Recollection may enable me to pursue the subject hereafter, if acceptable.

Augusta, Feb. 1, 1855. AGRICOLA.

STALLS FOR HORSES—CITY.

Mr. Editor:—I wish to enquire through the columns of your paper, the best plan of erecting stalls in a stable. The place for the stalls is eighteen by thirty-two feet, the barn floor is elevated two feet above the stable floor; the most important object is the mode of building the rack and crib. I wish to build eight stalls if there is room.

I have been a constant reader of your paper. I now take the liberty to describe a lean-to, built by me: the lean-to is twelve feet by sixty, the floor slanting back eight inches; the top planks run back about six feet from the crib; the crib is twenty inches wide; the barn floor is two feet above the lean-to floor; the bottom piece to the rack is a just three inches thick, pinned to the post six inches below the top of the barn floor, the barn floor coming to the top of the plank of the rack and down to the rack; the top of the rack is a plank pinned to the same posts fourteen inches above the bottom piece; the rounds are six inches apart, it is boarded from the top of the rack up to the scaffold. The posts are twelve feet apart; so that I can tie four cattle between two posts. There are doors hanging to the top rack piece, to turn down to the barn floor in cold weather.

There is a saving by feeding this way, as there is nothing lost; my cattle will not waste one hundred weight of hay this winter. I think when fed in this way they will do better on the same food. If any one has a better way of feeding cattle, I should like to hear from them.

A YOUNG FARMER.

North Anson, Jan. 1855.

NOTE. The best stalls for horses are those large enough for them to turn round in, in fact a room where they can be confined without being hitched. This requires much space where you have several horses, but they are best. [Ed.]

SULPHUR FOR CATTLE—CAUTION.

I would advise people in using sulphur as a medicine for cattle, to be careful not to use too much. I gave 10 pounds to a two years old heifer, whose udder was badly swollen and eaked, at three different times, dividing as nearly as I could, which took the swelling from the udder, and the strength from her knees. By the use of warm gruel, and other nutriment, she got well, and gives milk yet.

A. W.

No. Searsmont, Jan. 21, 1855.

WANTS ON CATTLE.

NOTE. The cause of warts on cattle is not clearly known—perhaps it is the want of proper action in the skin. The knife should not be used, only to pare them slightly before applying the cautery. A pencil of the nitrate of silver touched to them daily, for several days, will often disperse them. We have found homoeopathic treatment highly successful with horses and cattle. For warts give *ducanaria*, and in some cases *sulphur*; for ulcerated warts, *arsenicum*. [New England Farmer.]

ALWAYS provide an equivalent for the substances carried off the land to the products grown thereon.

EGGS AND POULTRY.

"Many a mickle makes a muckle."

Mr. Editor:—The following is from the farm book kept by Charles Cushman, of Winslow, Kennebec County, Maine.

"In 1854, wintered 23 hens and 2 crows. In May lost 2 hens, had 21 the remainder of the year.

Amount of eggs sold, \$40 51
Amount of chickens sold, 9 03
6 chickens added to the flock, 1 20
Total income from Jan. 1, 1854 to Jan. 1, 1855, \$50 74

The above does not include the frozen eggs, nor those used in the family."

Now, if any farmer in the State of Maine can tell a "tougher," true story than this, I want to see it. And if any one doubts the above statement, they can call and see the book. And I think that, after examining the premises of my neighbor, they would be satisfied, and say at once, that hens ought to lay and cackle, too.

Now, the first question that will be asked by some, will be, how much does it cost to keep a hen a year? My neighbor says he regrets that he did not keep an account of the expense, but from some accounts that have been kept in this vicinity, and have been compared together, we are agreed that, as grain has been in years past, the cost for a year is about 75 cents. If they run at large in the summer, it would not cost as much. The above calculation is when they have enough to eat every day in the year. But, as grain now is, it might take a little more. Now, by the above calculation, for 25 hens, reckoning the keeping at 75 cents each, the cost would be \$18 75. Taking this from the \$40 51 will leave \$21 76 for profits on the eggs alone,—and that without any trouble of marketing, as the eggs were all sold to a market man, who came to the house and took them.

Another question that will be asked is, what kind of hens did he keep? Of this he informed me that his hens were Bolton Greys, or Creoles, mixed with the Poland. The Bolton Greys, or Creoles, are undoubtedly the best layers, but poor poultry, as their skin and legs are generally blue. Perhaps the same might be said of Poland hens. But both of the above kinds are less inclined to set than the common kind of birds.

Another thing to be taken into the account, the amount of capital. Twenty-five hens, at 25 cents each, would be \$6 25, (not enough to buy a cow.) Yet this \$6 25 capital produced an income of \$21 76. But this, as I have hinted, is an uncommon case. Some say that their hens do not pay for their keeping. I think it would be well for our committee at the cattle show to offer a premium to any one that would show, by a written statement, the greatest amount of income from a certain number of hens, say 20, or 30, just as they should think best. That would induce farmers to take some pains to feed their hens, and keep a book account with them. By this, farmers would compare the profits of different kinds of stock. I would not be surprised to advocate the keeping of large flocks of hens, as these experiments have seldom, or never proved advantageous. From 20 to 30 in one flock generally pay better in proportion than a larger number. But in this we ought to observe the motto, "give them room according to their strength." And give them food according to their number.

MANUFACTURE OF MAPLE SUGAR.

It will be soon by reference to the files of the Ohio Farmer, that Dr. William L. Hamilton of Republic, Seneca County, took the premium for maple sugar at our last Ohio State Fair. He presented us with a few pounds of it. It is fully equal in appearance and quality to the best loaf sugar. We were anxious to know the process of its manufacture, and to our enquiries he replied as follows:

The sugar presented to you was made last spring, in the following manner. The sap, or sugar water, was caught in black walnut buckets, and boiled down to syrup in a cauldron kettle, set in an arch, out of doors. It was then strained through a cloth-strainer, and put in another kettle for further boiling down, which was done in the house. The whites of two eggs and a pint of sweet milk were beaten together, and put into the syrup for the purpose of clarifying it, after which it was placed over a fire sufficiently large to keep it boiling, the scum (as sugar-makers term it) rising upon the top, being carefully skimmed off.

When sufficiently boiled, so as to admit of granulation, it was poured into a wooden funnel, and there cooled without any agitation. It was allowed to remain and drain from the funnel, assisted by covering the top of the sugar with cloth kept constantly wet with cold water, until it became as white as it could be made; then it was broken up, taken out of the wooden funnel, and ground in a coffee mill. You will thus perceive that some extra pains were taken with it, but notwithstanding, maple sugar may be made equally as white with less trouble, as follows:—The sugar water to be caught in clean buckets, tin pans, or stone crocks. Red earthen-ware will do. Boil it in a cauldron kettle, set in an arch, out of doors, and when cool strain it through a cloth. Clarify it with the whites of eggs and sweet milk, carefully skimming while boiling down. When boiled sufficiently, so as to admit granulation, pour the sugar into a tub made small at the bottom and large at the top, which may be nearly full by adding sugar from time to time as you make it. After the tub is filled, perforate the bottom with small holes, in order to let the molasses run off, placing the tub up from the floor sufficiently to set a vessel under it, to catch the molasses. Apply upon the top cloths wet with cold water, which continue until all the coloring matter has been drawn off, or in other words washed out of the sugar by the water passing through from the cloths on the top. [Ohio Farmer.]

NORTH AROOSTOOK AG. SOCIETY.

Report of Committee on Crops.

The committee on crops attended to this duty on the 27th day of December, 1854. We find on referring to the list of entries made to the Secretary, that there are three entries of spring wheat, one by E. W. Truworthy, one by J. W. Haines, and one by C. H. Ellis.

There were three entries of oats, one by B. Cummings, one by Enoch Hoyt, and one by C. H. Ellis.

There was only one entry of peas, by Freeman Ellis.

There were two entries for clover seed, one by J. W. Haines, and one by Levi Hoyt.

There were three entries for corn, one by Freeman Ellis, one by B. Cummings, and one by Wm. Pyle.

There were two entries for potatoes, one by J. W. Haines, and one by B. Cummings.

There were two entries for ruta bagas, one by J. H. Haines, and one by C. H. Ellis.

Although the entries are fewer, and the average crop somewhat smaller than in former years, we firmly believe that the falling off is not owing to any want of proper and judicious cultivation of the soil, or a want of interest in those engaged in raising crops, but wholly owing to the unfavorable season, and your committee firmly believe that had there not been a growing interest in all farming operations within the last few years, (more particularly the present,) our entries, as to numbers, quantity and quality, would have been much less than they now are. Your committee believe that, with proper and judicious cultivation of the soil, and usually good seasons, the county of Aroostook can produce crops of all kinds (corn excepted) equal to any county in New England.

Your committee award the first premium on spring wheat to John W. Truworthy, having raised 31½ bushels per acre, the second to J. W. Haines, and the third to C. H. Ellis.

The first premium on oats to B. Cummings, having raised 98 bushels, the second to Enoch Hoyt, 82 bushels to the acre.

The first premium on corn to B. Cummings, second to Freeman Ellis, third to Wm. Pyle.

The first premium on clover seed to J. W. Haines, having raised 191 lbs. clear seed to the acre; second to Levi Hoyt, having raised 188 lbs. clear seed to the acre.

The first premium on peas we award to Freeman Ellis.

The first premium on potatoes we award to J. W. Haines, having raised 375 bushels per acre; the second to B. Cummings.

The first premium on ruta bagas to J. W. Haines, the second to C. H. Ellis.

ICE-HOUSES IN THE CELLAR.

Mr. Editor:—Innumerable are the "plans" for constructing ice-houses, and keeping ice, which is now universally regarded not merely as an article of luxury but of necessity. Few farmers wish to be without some kind of a structure for keeping a supply, yet very few are willing to incur the expense necessary for the construction of a first-rate house. Some years since a friend of mine who has traveled extensively both in this country and in Europe, and as is generally the case with observing and intelligent minds, picked up many useful "bits" of valuable information, communicated to me a method of preserving ice through the summer which I have found both economical and efficient. It is this: In some convenient part of your cellar, excavate a hole of the desired capacity, and line it all around the sides with evergreen boughs, fir, pine, cedar or hemlock, whichever you can procure most readily, and having covered the bottom with boughs, spread tan or saw dust, pack in your ice. Batters may be placed across the top and the whole covered with boughs, leaving only a small opening through which to obtain the daily supply of ice, and which may be easily covered with boughs, or left open, as circumstances may appear to demand. In this way I have kept ice through the season with less loss and trouble than in any other manner. It also serves as an excellent refrigerator for the cellar, keeping it cool and the air perfectly pure and sweet during the hottest weather. The cost of excavating, conveying away the dirt, lining and covering, including all materials, need not necessarily be more than five dollars, and the cost of "filling in" is considerably less, for load for load, than in the case of houses above ground. A run formed of two planks laid side by side from the outside cellar door to the hole, will enable you to run in your blocks as fast as they can be packed; there is no hoisting or hard lifting, as the direction of movement is downwards instead of upwards. A few loads of ice packed in this manner will be amply sufficient for a large family during the hot weather, and may be put in for a few dollars. If the cellar is wet, of course this plan will be found utterly impracticable, and should by no means be attempted, but in dry cellars, it works admirably.

A NEW-ENGLANDER.

Claremont, N. H., Jan. 1, 1855.

[Germanstown Telegraph.]

THE SLEEP OF ARCTIC PLAINS.

M. Seemann, the naturalist of Kellett's Arctic Expedition, states a curious fact respecting the condition of the vegetable world during the long day of the Arctic summer. Although the sun never sets while it lasts, plants make no mistake about the time when, if it be not night, it ought to be, but regularly as the evening hours approach, and when a midnight sun is several degrees above the horizon, drop their leaves and sleep, even as they do at sunset in more favored climes.

"If man," observes M. Seemann, "should ever reach the pole, and be undecided whether to stay to turn when his compass has become sluggish, his timesleep at night will show him which he may happen to meet will tell him that mid-night is at hand, and at that time the sun is standing in the north."

A NEW ENGINE OF WAR. It is said that an Englishman named Palmer, has invented a ball for guns and cannon, which will expand to six times its original diameter after its discharge, and lacinate, to kill. The velocity of the ball is not perceptibly affected by the expansion.

THE BLACKSMITH.

BY S. ROBERTS.

O, a mighty man is the blacksmith,
With his sinewy arm and strong;
And as the world have termed him right,
We will not err him wrong.

He'll blow and strike, and hammer and pound,
Through a mass of iron he is;
He's often given his leg;
But never to a finger.

He'll screw and twist, and wrench and turn,
Though honest in his dealing;
And while he often takes the steel,
He never takes to stealing.

His stock is seldom less than par,
And often takes a rise;
No matter what his vices are,
He's much to do with vice.

His temper it is always good,
Though hard things form his lot;
He's often in a "stalling mood,"
And strikes while the iron's hot.

He sometimes sways an iron rod,
Although a foe to tyranny;
His figures are not those of speech,
Though oft he uses irony.

And ere his great work is complete,
And he shall close his books,
Our words he'll into plowshares beat,
Our spears to pruning-hooks.

A PLACE FOR EVERY TOOL.

Everybody, who is anybody, likes to see system and order displayed in the various operations of the farm; and even the most careless and negligent farmer, and approve the practice of him who has an appropriate place for every tool, and who strenuously insists on keeping them there. "A place for everything, and everything in its place," is a maxim, coeval with the art of printing, for aught I know;—and we find, many times, that those who often insist on having this precept carried into practice, come the farthest short of keeping it themselves. Many farmers fall, greatly, in keeping this precept, and in time lost, patience tested, and the many hindrances which result therefrom, they are often obliged to suffer a mortifying penalty.

Ask Mr. A. where he keeps his hand saw, or his augers, or pick, crow-bar, &c. "Well, let me think—where did I use them last? Look in the wood house. If they are not there, look in the carriage house; and if they are not to be found there, let us see if they are not somewhere about the barn, or in the stable." Mr. B. says, I usually keep my tools, either at the house or barn, or in the path that leads from the house to the barn; and it generally gets carried to one place or the other. There being generally, such a destitution of order, in reference to keeping tools in their appropriate place, it is deemed a matter of no propriety to speak of the order and arrangement, in the disposition of the various tools of the work-shop, and farm, which is practised by a young farmer, not a hundred miles distant from the residence of the writer.

Ask him, for instance, where his hand saw is; or his drawing knife; or his augers; or any other tool you may need. And the unsatisfactory reply is, in such a part of the shop, hanging on such a pin, or nail, or standing, or lying in such a corner, or on such a shelf. There hang the augers, each one in its appropriate place; and, on all the premises, they are allowed no other place. There hang a half dozen saws; and if one of them is taken down, but for a moment's work, its first and last resting place is, on its own peg. There is a drawer with an apartment for screws, one for rivets of a half dozen different sizes, one for washers, for bolts of all sizes, one for nails of different sizes and so on. In one corner is a shallow box-shelf, where a lot of carriage bolts, and other bolts, and where everything in the bolt line is kept, in case of a break down. There hang a number of extra plow handles; in case one should be broken, in season, a half day need not be spent in going several miles to have it repaired. Extra pieces of harness, pieces of worn-out or broken tools, hang on nails, on one side of the shop, where, at a glance of the eye, anything that is wanted to repair a break down can be had, without tumbling over a whole box full to find something, which, perhaps, may not be there. There hang a variety of useful little articles, instead of being tumbled into a box where they can never be found when needed. There hang the chains, (not on the fence any where on the plantation,) in that corner. There the beetle and wedges are kept. Are there any extra plow points about the shop?—you will find them up stairs in such a place, and nowhere else. Every one who assists about the barn and stables understands that this shovel, when not in use, must stand in that corner. The manure fork must be kept here. That fork and that shovel, in the feeding-room, must always stand in this end of the box, where feed is mixed. This fork must be left in the mow, and when not in use, the end of the handle must be rested on the ladder, so that one always knows, even in the dark, where to find the fork, to throw down fodder. That harness, and that collar belong on that horse; and they must always be hung on that hook. When the halters are taken off of the horses, each halter is hung on its appropriate hook. A score of other little things, which are generally thrown here and there by the majority of people, have their own place, and will always be found there when not in use.

Where there are a large number of workmen and boys to use the tools, it is just as easy to keep them in one place and far more important, as where there are but one or two individuals to use them. Let it be understood by each one, that every tool must be returned to its proper place immediately. When an auger or chisel is needed ten or twelve rods from the shop, let it be returned without delay. It will require but one minute to travel ten rods; and if one is in haste, so that one always knows, even in the dark, where to find the fork, to throw down fodder. That harness, and that collar belong on that horse; and they must always be hung on that hook. When the halters are taken off of the horses, each halter is hung on its appropriate hook. A score of other little things, which are generally thrown here and there by the majority of people, have their own place, and will always be found there when not in use.

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